

From "Jose Bulatao, Jr" <mrb@hawaiiink.net>

Sent Saturday, October 16, 2010 4:56 am

To Representative Mina Morita <repmorita@Capitol.hawaii.gov>

Cc

[REDACTED]

Subject response to your letter in TGI today

Aloha,

What is most impressive about the Hawaiian culture is the "malama aina" principles that were forged in the most isolated spot on planet Earth. A system was derived to take only what is needed, to share what you have, to be conscientious of cyclical realities, to restore and remediate the environment, to realize the synergy between humanity and nature, to respect the correlation of things physical and spiritual-----all of these things, and more, that is reflected in the statement:

"The land is chief. We are but stewards of the land."

This, of course, includes everything from mauka to makai-----from mountain top (and the air above) to the depths of the ocean and all that is within it.

Until and unless we begin to truly understand and embrace the integrity and necessity of protecting and preserving the finite resources entrusted upon us, where ever we may be on planet Earth, we will ultimately diminish, if not destroy the essence of it all.

This is the lesson and the legacy of our host culture, the kanaka maoli. This is what we need to do to truly live aloha. This is what we can share with the rest of the world.

Sincerely,  
Jose Bulatao, Jr.